

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application. In light of the remarks included herein, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejection.

In the outstanding Official Action, the Examiner provisionally rejected the pending claims on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-18 of co-pending application No. 10/669,270. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Supervisory Examiner Interview

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner's Supervisor, Apu Mofiz, for the telephone Interview conducted on May 3, 2007. During the telephone Interview, Applicants' representative explained to Supervisor Mofiz that since the provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection was the only outstanding rejection, in accordance with §804 of the MPEP (and as clearly argued in Applicants' previous Reply), the outstanding rejection should be withdrawn.

After reading §804 of the MPEP with Applicants' representative, Supervisor Mofiz agreed that the outstanding rejection should, and will, be withdrawn.

Based upon this agreement made during the Interview with Supervisor Mofiz, and in accordance with MPEP §804, as the provisional double patenting rejection is the only outstanding rejection, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner properly withdraw the outstanding rejection and pass this application to issue.

In view of the above argument, Applicants believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Catherine M. Voisin Reg. No.

Application No. 10/669,350
Amendment dated May 15, 2007
After Final Office Action of March 16, 2007

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52,327 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: May 15, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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